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MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Central Intelligence



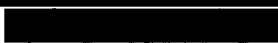
SUBJECT: Recommendations of the DD/I
Concerning NPIC

REFERENCE: Memo for DCI from DD/I, dated 24 August 1965, Subject: "NPIC" 

1. This memorandum contains a recommendation for the approval of the Director of Central Intelligence. The recommendation is found in paragraph 5.

2. We have studied the DD/I recommendations with respect to NPIC which were forwarded to you on 24 August 1965. Since NPIC is the responsibility of the DD/I, I feel it is inappropriate to comment on those aspects of the paper which deal primarily with NPIC administration and operations. However, the same paper recommends a change in the name and charter of COMOR, for which I carry the principal responsibility.

3. I believe that it is unwise to rename COMOR or reopen the question of its scope at the present time. COMOR is a major element in your control of NRO, since it matches reconnaissance requirements with NRO capabilities and can provide you with appropriate recommendations for direction of the NRO in frequency of coverage. The present NRO has been reluctantly and only partly responsive to COMOR.

4. I have much the same feeling with respect to reopening the NSCID-8 question for the sake of ensuring that  as well as the normal photographic take, goes to NPIC. In fact, they have been intimately involved in the evaluation of the Air Force  and in the exploitation of the  acquired by our own U-2 operations. The original NSCID-8 approval by President Eisenhower was achieved by a very narrow margin, and was

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actively opposed by the Air Force and other military services. It seems precarious to reopen that close decision simply to rename the Center and ensure that it receives reconnaissance take which it is already receiving. If we are to run the gauntlet of another debate on the DCI's responsibility in the collection arena, it should be to strengthen the present authority and extend it to the management of both processing and rendition of film for the production of national intelligence.

3. While I agree with the thrust and objectives of the DD/I recommendations, I believe it very unwise to reopen at our own initiative either the COMOR charter or NSCID-8.

ALBERT D. WHEELER
Deputy Director
for
Science and Technology

The recommendation contained in paragraph 6 is approved:

Director of Central Intelligence

Date

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- Cy 1 & 2 - DCI
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- 5 - Chairman, COMOR
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*Not approved at this
Time*

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